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NOTICE:
L. P. FISHER is our only authorized Agent for the collecting of advertisements, etc., in San Francisco.

AGENTS.

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New Westminster.....	Seth T. Tilley
Port Langley.....	W. Winnard
Port Hope.....	Ballou's Express
Port Yale.....	Kurtz & Co
Port Douglas.....	Myers' Express
Cayoosh.....	Myers' Express
Lytton City.....	Jas. H. Batterton
Fort Alexander.....	Pony Express Co
San Francisco.....	L. P. Fisher
Forks of Canal River.....	M. Martin
Port Townsend.....	Henry Hogan
Portland.....	Chas. Barrett

A List of Haunted Houses.

Forty years have passed since the memorable "Purging Tragedy" convulsed the good people of Maine. Purrington was a laboring man in humble circumstances residing in the suburbs of Augusta, the capital, and was generally regarded as a quiet, honest, and good-hearted man. His family consisted of a wife and seven children six of whom were girls. For some time he had been desponding, and often expressed a fear that his family would come to want. One morning he arose early and read his Bible, leaving it open at the chapter narrating Abraham's attempted sacrifice of his son. Securing an axe, he entered the bedroom, where he had left his wife sleeping, and killed her with a single blow. His two eldest daughters were next murdered by repeated strokes, and he followed up the horrid butchery by killing those of his other children who slept on the same floor. He then ascended to the chamber where his only son was sleeping, and struck at him with an axe, inflicting a terrible wound. The youth, however, succeeded in getting up and springing out of the window before the blow could be repeated, and hastened to a neighbor's for assistance. When help arrived, Purrington was found dead in the kitchen, with his throat cut from ear to ear, a blood-stained razor in his hand, and his wife and entire family, save the son, lying dead in the rooms around him. On the wall, over the mantel-piece, was the full imprint of the wretched man's right hand, as if he had staggered forward after cutting his throat, and caught thus at the wall for support. He was buried in a dishonored grave at the crossing of four roads, without coffin or prayer, after the ancient mode of disposing of suicides and murderers. His victims were interred in the burial-ground, and another family moved into the premises—the scene of the dreadful tragedy. But the house did not long remain tenanted. Rumors of its being haunted soon were abroad, and no door could be kept shut; strange noises were heard, and no amount of scrubbing could remove the imprint of that bloody hand from the wainscot. The house finally fell into ruins, and was eventually razed to the ground a few years ago, and its site is now a corn-field.

There has also been, within a few years, another haunted house in Augusta, standing on Bridge street, on the north side of the way. This house has stood unoccupied for several years—its reputation being such that no one desired to rent or buy it. The owner finally found a family up country willing to take possession of the tenement, and they arrived with their load of furniture about the middle of the afternoon. A few things were removed from the cart, enough to get a hasty dinner and set a table, and the family seated themselves to the repast. While eating and chatting, a strange groan was heard, and an awful apparition came up from the cellar—the head and shoulders of a man without the body—which slowly circled around the table, and then disappeared down the cellar way. Of course the family did not remove any more of their furniture from the cart, and stayed only long enough to gather their property, when they hastily departed, returning to the place from whence they came. This house is still unoccupied, and rapidly falling into decay.

In the western part of Gardiner, a village eight miles south of Augusta, is a little cottage, which has long borne the reputation of a haunted house. This cottage had been owned by a sailor, who went off to sea, and was supposed to have been lost overboard, shipwrecked, or murdered, as he was never heard from after his departure. In the source of time, it became the belief in the vicinity that this sailor's spirit was haunting the premises—a shadow being repeatedly seen by the several members of the family occupying the house. It was quite a harmless manifestation, however, the shadow generally appearing near the gate, and quietly approaching the house—often causing the occupants to think that visitors were coming, but always "dissolving into thin air" before it reached the front door.

Our informant was once visiting at this cottage when the shadow was seen by the eldest daughter, and declares that the entire family had no doubts of the supernatural origin of the apparition, although it had been seen so often that no emotion was caused by its visit.

Not many years ago, an old house standing between Albany and Schenectady, on the turnpike road, was said to be subject to ghostly visitations. Lights were seen at unusual hours, and strange noises were heard. The place had begun to acquire considerable reputation as a haunted house, when some astute officials made a secret descent upon it, and arrested quite a number of count-reiters, whose occupancy and occupation fully explained the ghostly phenomena which had been seen.

Near the road which winds along the foot of Mount Royal, two miles from Montreal, there stands a house which is regarded as haunted by all the superstitious people in the neighborhood. It was formerly the abode of an eccentric old Frenchman, who committed suicide, and about whose character and history a great deal of mystery had gathered.

His body lay several days in the house after his tragical end, before his suicide became known. It is said that the ghost of the suicide is often seen flitting about the premises, with very wild eyes and wilder laugh.

Between Hallowell and Gardiner there stood on a little creek, some thirty years ago, an old mill. The proprietor had been found murdered in the stream below the mill, and it was said that his spirit lingered round the mill. The old residents thereabouts still love to dwell upon the mystery.

Apocryphal to this subject, there is not far from Hallowell, L. I., an inlet in a small river called "Lover's Creek," and the name thus originated: A young man, who was devotedly attached to a fair young girl near, had become jealous of her unconscious coquetry, and is supposed to have given her an instant and fatal poison, as she was found dead, without external marks of violence, while the lover lay near, cold and motionless, with a discharged pistol in his right hand and a bullet buried in his brain. Another account is that the maiden suddenly died of some obscure and deadly disease, and the lover, through grief and despair, perhaps coupled with fear of being thought her murderer, shot himself on the spot where lay her lifeless form. This latter account is more generally favored, for it is said the lovers are often seen walking on the shore, or sailing about the river in a spectral boat, and otherwise living out, in ghostly form, the existence whose earthly career was interrupted in such a melancholy manner.

Near Belladuna, N. Y., there is an old farm-house which stands deserted. The former owner poisoned his wife, as was generally supposed, though no legal evidence was produced in support of the prevailing suspicion. The suspected party immediately removed to the west, but not before the rumor became current that he had been frightened nearly out of his senses by repeated visits from the spirit of his wife. The house having acquired a bad name, it was easy for the more superstitious portion of the community to find mysteries and wonders to keep up its reputation.

Never Tell a Lie.

How simply and beautifully has Abdel Kader, of Ghilou, impressed us with the love of truth in a story of his childhood. After stating the vision which made him treat of his mother to go to Bagdad, and devote himself to God, he thus proceeds:—

I informed her of what I had seen, and she wept; then, taking out eighty dinars, she told me, as I had a brother, half of that was all my inheritance; and she made me swear, when she gave it to me, never to tell a lie, and afterward bade me farewell, exclaiming—

"Go my son, I consign you to God; we shall not meet until the day of judgment."

I went on till I came near Hammandal, when our kafilah was plundered by sixty horsemen. One fellow asked me "what I had got?"

"Forty dinars," said I, "are sewed under my garments."

The fellow laughed, thinking, no doubt, I was joking with him.

"What have you got?" said another.

I gave him the same answer. When they were dividing the spoil, I was called to an eminence where the chief stood.

"What property have you got, my little fellow?" said he.

"I have told two of your people already," said I. "I have forty dinars sewed in my garments."

He ordered them to be ripped open, and found my money.

"And how came you," said he, in surprise, "to declare so openly what had been so carefully concealed?"

"Because," I replied, "I will not be false to my mother, to whom I promised I never will tell a lie."

"Child," said the robber, "hast thou such a sense of duty to thy mother, at thy years, and I am insensible at my age of the duty I owe to my God? Give me thy hand, innocent boy," he continued, "that I may swear repentance upon it."

He did so. His followers were alike struck with the scene.

"You have been our leader in guilt," said they to their chief, "be the same in the path to virtue."

And they instantly, at his order, made restitution of the spoil, and vowed repentance on his hand.

DEATH OF A MAN FROM TOOTHACHE.—Levi Cain, a wealthy man residing near Hallowell, Del., died recently, from a disease produced by toothache. The Wilmington Republican says: On the 5th of the month he complained of toothache, but considered it nothing more than an ordinary attack of the unpleasant affliction. It grew more serious, however, and progressed from bad to worse, until he was forced to take to his bed, and after the lapse of several days, erysipelas made its appearance about his face and throat, superinduced by the pain and irritation of his teeth. This disease spread over his body, and in spite of medical skill, and of every thing that could be done for him, terminated the patient's existence on the day above named, in twelve days from the time he was first affected.

LONG LIVED APPLE TREE.—It is stated that an apple tree on the premises of Dr. Elisha Lord, of Abingdon, Massachusetts, has borne large quantities of excellent fruit every season for seventy years past, and is still in vigorous condition.—Agriculturist.

From the Sublime—to a Dirty Dog.
The Paris correspondent of the San Francisco Bulletin is travelling through France and gives the following amusing incident in one of his recent letters:

While slowly walking along the lower side of the terrace, and enjoying the scene which I have attempted to describe, and while reflecting upon the great events which have taken place on the landscape which was then within the compass of my vision, my attention was suddenly drawn off from the landscape, and my thoughts from history, by a young and pretty woman, who seemed to have dropped down, or rose up near me. She was dressed in the very latest fashion, and though there was nothing to find fault with, her general appearance was strongly suggestive of the quartier Brede. She was convulsed—in a tempest of grief, a regular high-pressure agony, shedding tears by the cord, wringing her hands, swaying to and fro, and acting altogether as though all the sorrows, pains, miseries, all the anguish, and despair of her whole life—of a thousand lives, had been gathered into one pang, and poured out, then and there upon her devoted head. I timidly approached—and though not in the habit of obtruding myself upon the attention of strangers, especially lady strangers—yet, in this instance, I felt that forbearance was not a virtue, inasmuch as no mortal could long sustain such dreadful woes as was racking the "young being" who now stood a short distance from me. I felt it to be my duty to endeavor to assuage her more than mortal agony, and perhaps by so doing, I might save a lovely woman from—doing anything rash! (Whether or no her pretty face had anything to do with my Samaritan sentiments, is a point I have not yet decided.) With this Christian feeling in the ascendant I "drew nigh unto her," and in my best French, and in the softest and most persuasive "intonations," I began thus: "You are in great distress, Madame; is it not?"

She cut me short with: "I am not a Madame, Monsieur; I am Mademoiselle Béatrice!"

I was slightly taken aback with this, but the agony renewing with her, I continued: "Excuse me, Mademoiselle, but is your grief of such a nature as to permit me to offer you any consolation?"

"Say impossible, Monsieur!"

"Cast not so, Béatrice, (the name given in the most captivating voice,) for within the hallowed walls of yonder time-worn church, you can—"

"Hav'n't been to church, Monsieur, since my first communion, six years ago, and I don't wish—" Rest of sentence lost in a row of sob.

"Has the relentless grasp of death removed from you some loved object?"

"Yes, oh yes! my best, my fondest, my most adored friend, my poor Jules!"

Here came a perfect paroxysm of agony. After a few moments of silence on my part, I remarked: "Do not weep so much, Mademoiselle. You know it is appointed unto all men to die."

"Men, monsieur?"

"Yes, men and women; they must all pay, sooner or later, the great debt of nature. Pray tell me of what disease and how recently your loved Jules passed away?"

"My darling Jules, only a few moments ago, (sob) was alive, (sob) and happy."

"Only a few moments ago?"

"Yes, he jumped up on this wall, lost his balance, fell over, and is now empyaled on the horrid pickets of an iron fence, forty feet below!" (A fresh burst of we and tears.)

"Horrible!" I exclaimed; and going quickly to the wall, and fully expecting, as I looked over and down, to see a man in the last throes of death, when—what should I see, but a little mangy cur, transpierced with a bar of iron, and dead as my dead dog, all excepting his tail, and that was in its last wag.

I did not look again on the dark-eyed Béatrice. I placed my back firmly and resolutely towards her, and opened a wide gap between us by means of some astonishing tall walking!

Soon after this denouement, I held a meeting of one and passed unanimously the following resolution:

Resolved, That during the next twenty-four hours I shall make no attempt, having for its object the assuaging of the grief, or the stopping of the tears of any strange woman, without first learning whether she is lamenting the premature death of a scabby dog, or her affianced lover.

Jacob Strahle & Co.'s
BILLIARD TABLES.

Mr. Lewis Davis,
OF THE STAR AND GARTER HOTEL, Government street, having been appointed our
Agent for Vancouver Island, British Columbia and the Pacific Coast,
Orders for our celebrated Billiard Tables, with the new Patent Double Spring Cushion.
IVORY-TOPPED CUES, CUE WAX, BALLS,
And all other Billiard fixtures, if left with him, will be promptly attended to.
Jell 1m
MACDONALD & CO.,
Office on Yates street,
SELL CHECKS AT NIGHT ON TALLANT & WILDE, Bankers, San Francisco.
Furnish Bills of Exchange in sums to suit, and at current rates on New York and London.
Pay highest prices for Bars and Gold Dust.
Make advances on Gold Dust for Assay or Coinage in San Francisco.
Purchase Navy Bills and Bills on London.
Jeff Smith
MUSIC SCHOOL,
BY G. SANDRIE,
Johnson street, opposite Tiger Engine.
SINGING CLASS EVERY TUESDAY, THURSDAY and Saturday. Private Lessons. Jell 1m

MISCELLANEOUS.

Dickson, Campbell & Co.,
Wharf Street,
OFFER FOR SALE EX. RECENT ARRIVALS
BRANDY—Martell, in case and bulk, do
DO WHISKY—Scotch and Irish. do do
RUM—Fine Old Jamaica (high proof)
OLD TONIC—In case and bulk,
(Swaine, Boord & Co's, W. Worthington & Sons', and other brands.)
GENEVA—J. de Kuyper & Sons', and Van Hoytema & Co's.
SHERRY WINE—Various brands in 1/2 casks and bottles,
PORT WINE—London Dock, do do
CLARET—St Julien Medec and other brands,
CHAMPAGNE—Ch. Duclie, Princess Clotilde, Jacquesson et Fils, etc.
HOCK SPARKLING—A superior article,
GINGER BRANDY—In 1 doz cases,
(Swaine, Boord & Co's, W. Worthington & Sons', Henry Brett & Co's, Tanqueray's, etc., etc.)
RUM SHIRAZ, CHERRY CORDIAL,
Creme de Menthe, Creme de Cassia, Creme de Noyau
Jell 1m etc., etc.

ALFRED FELLOWS,
IRON MERCHANT,
AND GENERAL DEALER IN
HARDWARE AND AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS,
30 Yates street, Victoria,
IMPORTS DIRECT FROM THE MANUFACTURERS in England, and has always on hand, Iron in bars, rods, sheets, plates, hoops, etc. Horse and Bull Shoes, Horse-shoe Nails and Shoe Shapes; Chains, Anvils, Vices, Files, and every article required by Smiths and Farriers, which he is able to sell in many cases at less than San Francisco rates. All other kinds of Hardware and Agricultural Implements always on hand.
N. B.—Mining Picks, an excellent article, made to the Sacramento pattern, for sale at less than the San Francisco price. apl 3m

Alexander Stenhouse,
YATES STREET,
Opposite Waddington alley,
HOUSE AND LAND AGENT,
Will give his best attention to Buying, Selling, or Leasing Property, Negotiating Loans, and all other business connected with Real Estate.
Rents, Notes, Debts, and Accounts collected.
Labor and Intelligence Mart,
where all those in need of employment, are solicited to register their names. Jell 1m

Alexander Stenhouse,
YATES STREET,
HOUSE AND LAND AGENT,
NOW OFFERS
TO RENT AND LEASE—SEVERAL CON-
venient HOUSES and STORES, advantageously situated, or residence or business; also, for Sale or Lease, several valuable Lots and Premises in different parts of the city.
FOR SALE—A FARM in Metehosh, comprising 200 acres of land, with new dwelling house containing six rooms, spare rooms for servants, good stable, cow shed for 12 cows, pig-sties, 14 acres of land fenced and under cultivation, and 16 acres of land, half water frontage. Also, Floughs, Harrows, and other Farming Implements, 20 head of Cattle, 2 Horses and a quantity of Fowls and Pigs.
FOR LEASE—A Farm of 200 acres of land, one-half open prairie, well situated, in the Lake District, with good house and the whole entirely fenced in.
FOR SALE—119 acres of open prairie land, large proportion of open prairie land, situated on Pedder Bay, water frontage and good harbor.
FOR SALE—100 acres excellent Agricultural Land in Equimault District.
FOR LEASE—200 acres of Land in Equimault District, with house and out-houses, garden, and paddocks fenced.
PARTNER WANTED—On a Farm of 200 acres, with good house and out-buildings, garden, and 25 acres fenced. Only a small deposit required. Balance can remain at a low rate of interest.
\$10,000, in sums of not less than \$500, for Loan on Real Estate.
my 29 Jell 1m

ASSAY OFFICE.
MARCHAND & CO.,
Respectfully announce to the public of
VICTORIA AND BRITISH COLUMBIA
that they have opened their new office for the
ASSAYING OF GOLD, SILVER,
COPPER, AND OTHER ORES,
And are now fully prepared to make all Assays entrusted to them with
Correctness and Care.
Returns made in from 3 to 6 hours in bar or coin at the option of the depositor.
M & CO. beg to refer to the following bankers: Wells, Fargo & Co., Victoria. McDonald & Co., Victoria. Leach & Hilton, Portland, Oregon. Davidson & May, San Francisco. Wells, Fargo & Co., San Francisco. Tallant & Wilde, San Francisco. Parrott & Co., San Francisco. Salter & Church, San Francisco. Harris & Co., San Francisco. Abel Guy & Co., San Francisco.
OFFICE—In the building formerly occupied by McDonald & Co., No. 8, Yates street, Victoria. Jell 1m

GREAT BARGAINS.
Selling Off! Selling Off!!
THE UNDERSIGNED, BEING ABOUT to leave Victoria, now offers for sale his large Stock of Clothing and Furnishing Goods AT NEW YORK PRICES.
Those desirous of purchasing had better call at
QUINCY HALL,
YATES STREET, CORNER OF WHARF STREET before going elsewhere.
my 29 E. HARRIS, Quincy Hall

Victoria Coal Company.
COAL AND WOOD.
THE UNDERSIGNED HAVE ALWAYS on hand a full supply of COAL and WOOD at lowest market rates
Jell 1m 2p JOHN T. LITTLE & CO., Agents, City Wharf, foot of Yates street.

Photography.
A SUPERIOR AND COMPLETE PHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS may be had at a moderate price. Apply to
LANGLEY BROS.
my 29
Wright & Saunders,
ARCHITECTS,
Office—CORNER YATES AND LANGLEY STS. Victoria. Jell 1m

HENRY NATHAN,
IMPORTER AND GENERAL COMMISSION MERCHANT, No. 9 Wharf street, Victoria, V. I. Jell 1m

NOTICES.

Notice to Builders.
TENDERS WILL BE RECEIVED BY the undersigned until the 24th inst., for the erection of seven brick stores, with iron and stone fronts, commencing on the corner of Wharf and Station streets, forming part of Commercial Block.
Corner Government and Broughton streets, Victoria, V. I., June 13, 1861. Jell 1m RICHARD LEWIS.

Horse Strayed.
\$20 REWARD. STRAYED FROM TOWN, a light gray gelding, 15½ hands high, eight years old, legs a little dark; branded with a letter like a "Y."
Leave at PARKER'S STABLES, Johnson street. Jell 3m

NOTICE.
To Carpenters and Builders.
TENDERS WILL BE RECEIVED UNTIL Wednesday, the 26th inst., for the Carpenter work, Brick work, and Plastering of a cottage. The plan and specifications can be seen by applying to the undersigned.
Jell 3m H. R. COHEN, Cor Yates and Waddington streets.

REMOVAL.
MR. JOHN COPLAND HAS REMOVED to his Brick Building on Langley street near Yates street. Jell 1m

NOTICE.
ALL PERSONS INDEBTED TO THE ISLAND MARKET, Broughton street, are requested to call and settle their accounts without further notice. All who have accounts against the Establishment are likewise requested to present them for liquidation.
Jell 1m T. J. SKINNER.

HENRY NATHAN,
Having Just Received, per "Marcella,"
A FIRST SHIPMENT OF GOODS,
Direct from his House in London,
OFFERS IN LOTS TO SUIT,
CHEAP FOR CASH.

HOSIERY.—Consisting of Stockings, Socks, Gloves, Stays, Corsets, Twill Woollen, Regatta and Fancy White Shirts, long cloth Handkerchiefs, Neckties, &c., &c.
CLOTHING.—Gents' Black Tweed Doe Angola suit, Milton and Shooting Coats, Alpaca suits, Dressy Morning Coats, Draw Hunter's Cord Trowsers, Drawers, Felt, Straw, Leghorn, and Panama Hats, &c.
DRAPERY.—Silks, Merinos, Alpaca, Muslins, Barges, shirtings, etc.
OILMAN'S STORES.—Pickles, Sardines, Pick Fruits, Sauces, Mustard, Oil, etc.
ASSORTED Hardware, Crockery and Glassware.
ASSORTMENT OF FANCY WARE.—Consisting in part of Baskets, Braid and Silver Bracelets, Cards, Shaving, Tooth and Nail Brushes, Pipes, Combs, Plated Ware, etc. etc.
NO. 9, WHARF STREET, VICTORIA, V. I. Jell 1m

Steam Engines.
TWO FIRST-RATE TWELVE-HORSE power Scotch Steam Engines, with Boilers, for sale cheap.
E. STAMP & CO., Wharf street.

Storage.
STORAGE ON MODERATE TERMS, in our Fireproof Stone Warehouse, which is free from rats and damp.
E. STAMP & CO.

Roofing Tin.
A FEW BOXES EXTRA ROOFING Tin for sale at \$2 50.
E. STAMP & CO.

BYASS' PALE ALE AND PORTER,
Best cased Sherry.
E. STAMP & CO.

BASS' ALE, IN HOGSHEADS AND BARRELS. For sale by
E. STAMP & CO.

A Bargain.
SUPERIOR FELT FOR HOUSES AND Conservatories.
my 17 E. STAMP & CO., Wharf street.

A FEW CASES OF PARLIAMENT'S celebrated Champagne, Swaine Boord & Co's Old Tom in casks. For sale by
E. STAMP & CO.

Great Reduction in Prices
PARIS AND LONDON
ROTISSERIE AND RESTAURANT,
GOVERNMENT STREET,
Corner Trousance Alley, Victoria, V. I.

Breakfast, without Wine, \$0 75
Dinner, do, 1 00
Best brands of Wine constantly on hand
Superior English Ale and Porter. my 23 1m

STEAMER "OTTER"
Will leave the H. B. Co's Wharf
For New Westminster
Every TUESDAY and FRIDAY
Mornings, at 7 o'clock.

Freight and passengers carried at the lowest rates. Shippers are requested to send their goods to the H. B. Co's Wharf, (in readiness for the Otter,) where they will be received and stored free of expense.
Jell 1m W. A. MOUNT, Master.

EX "REVENUE" FROM GLASGOW.
20 1-4 CASKS JAMES STEWART & CO's superior Paisley Whisky.
300 cases, 1 doz each, Jas. Stewart & Co's superior Paisley Whisky.
50 cases Bernard & Co's Pale Brandy.
50 cases Bernard & Co's Ginger Wine.
50 cases Bernard & Co's Cherry Brandy.
50 cases Bernard & Co's Gin.
3 cases Fowler Starch from the well known manufactory of Brown & Polson, Paisley.
Just received, via an Francisco, and for sale by
DICKSON, CAMPBELL & CO., Wharf street. Jell 1m

Livery and Sale Stables,
YATES STREET.
BOWMAN & HALSEY
Inform their friends and the public generally, that they are now prepared to offer the very best accommodations in their line to be had in the town.
Saddle Horses, Buggies, etc., always ready. Horses kept on the most reasonable terms. All orders for teaming faithfully attended to.
Victoria, Dec 11, 1860. Jell 1m

H. C. JANION, Liverpool. JANION, GREEN & CO., Honolulu, Sandwich Islands.
JANION & GREEN,
COMMISSION MERCHANTS,
Foot of Johnson st., near the Bridge, Victoria, V. I.
Agents for the Liverpool Board of Underwriters. Jell 1m

THE BRITISH COLONIST

Monday Morning, June 17, 1861.

LATER FROM BRITISH COLUMBIA

SCARCITY OF PROVISIONS AND FRESHET AT CARIBOO.

The steamer Gov. Douglas, bringing 30 passengers and at least \$15,000 in gold dust, arrived from Fraser river on Saturday evening last, bringing late and important intelligence from the sister Colony.

LOWER RIVER.

On Tuesday afternoon the country from Spuzzum downwards was visited with a terrific hurricane, during which trees that had stood the blasts of ages were uprooted, and several houses demolished and unroofed.

The steamboat store on Dowdney's trail near Hope, was completely destroyed, and the trail covered with fallen trees. Capt. Grant's company lost an ox by a tree falling on it; but "its an ill wind that blows nobody good," as the sappers and miners were treated to fresh beef the very next day.

At the Lake House, on the Similkameen trail, a Mr. and Mrs. Marshall met with a hair-breadth escape from being crushed to death by a falling tree, and several other miraculous escapes are spoken of.

At Douglas, Yale, and on the Harrison-Lillooet trail the gale was very severe.

The civilian killed while felling a tree on the Similkameen trail on the 7th inst., was a German, and only known by the name of Fred. The body was brought to Hope and buried on the 8th inst.

On Thursday afternoon J. Thomas, bar-keeper at the 7-mile House, Similkameen trail, had his leg broken by a tree which he was cutting down falling on him. A surgeon went from Hope to attend the injured man.

At Yale two pack-trains arrived on Thursday from the upper country. The packers brought glowing accounts of the rich diggings above and bought loads to return immediately.

Preparations are being made at Yale for a due observance of the Fourth of July. Douglas street, back of the town, is being graded for a race track. It is the intention of the people to extend this street to the bridge across Yale Creek.

ROCK CREEK AND SIMILKAMEEN.

From these localities we learn that high water has driven the miners from their claims and nearly all have left for Nez Perces.

Blackfoot Flat, on the Similkameen, has also been nearly abandoned.

Gray's steamer, to run on Okanagan River and Lake has not received yet its machinery.

On Rock and Kettle Creeks the miners made very fair wages early in the Spring; but as the best pay was obtained from the bed-rock of low bars, which were generally deep diggings, the holders of such claims were among the first who were compelled by the high water to cease operations.

The arrivals of pack-trains from Oregon have nearly ceased, most of the packers having gone to Nez Perces with loads.

CARIBOO.

The news from Cariboo, so far as the prospects obtained in the mines are concerned, is even better than the most sanguine had ever dared to hope; but freshets and the extreme difficulty of getting food to the diggings have had the effect of damping the ardor of many at present there. "Argus," in his letter given below, says that a famine is anticipated, and that there has not been a pound of flour at Forks City for a week!

The sudden melting of the snow in the mountains has swollen the streams; a bridge has been washed away; flumes on Antler creek have gone down stream—carried off by the angry flood; and, worse than all, mining operations are entirely suspended for the present. We hope the suspension will prove but temporary, and await the reception of our special's next with anxiety and impatience.

Mr. J. G. Norris of this city, arrived at Hope on Thursday last from Cariboo. He purchased a stock of goods and immediately returned. While in conversation with several residents of Hope, Mr. N. gave a most flattering description of matters at the mines. He also exhibited \$100 worth of Antler Creek gold in nuggets varying in value from \$6 to \$12. The reports heretofore circulated, Mr. Norris says, were not in the least exaggerated.

LETTER FROM FORKS CITY.

[FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.]
NO. XL.

FORKS OF QUEENSLAND, May, 28, 1861.

PROSPEROUS ASPECT OF AFFAIRS.

EDITOR BRITISH COLONIST.—During the last ten days more than four hundred men have arrived at the Forks, and the number of miners now in this section must be under fourteen hundred. Hitherto, notwithstanding the numerous hardships and drawbacks that the miners experience, but one opinion has been entertained of the new mining districts, and that is that they will be found equal to any yet discovered on the Pacific coast. In crossing the Bald Mountain the country exhibits every characteristic of a rich auriferous region, and bears a striking resemblance to many famous localities in California.

THE DARK SIDE—A FAMINE FEARED.

The dark side of this picture is the famine which threatens to break out amongst us. During the last week not a pound of flour was to be had in town, and the small quantity which arrives is taken off the trains and bought before it is placed in store. The one thousand men now in the Snowshoe and Cariboo mines have, on an average, scarcely three weeks provisions with them, and

unless large cargoes are on the road, there is every probability that many will be starved out of the country. Parties have been detained here four or five days in order to obtain a month's provision to carry up with them, and numbers are still waiting from the same cause. The question—"Well, Jack, when are you going up?" is always answered by a lament at the absence of flour and bacon. Added to the want of these two necessary articles of consumption, the absence of shovels, pans, gum-boots, etc., have been severely felt.

COMMENDABLE CONDUCT OF THE TRADERS.

The traders, with commendable foresight and prudence, have not taken advantage of the demand to raise their price; but are still selling flour, when they have any, at 36 to 38 cents per lb.

SCARCITY OF ANIMALS.

Should the mines prove rich and easy to work, and thus induce nearly every one now here to remain, it is doubtful whether there are sufficient animals on the road to supply provisions, which will be required at the rate of 4000 to 5000 pounds per diem. Since my last letter I have made a trip to the Cariboo Lake (24 miles) with 45 lbs of provisions and my blankets, and have returned here for another load in order to establish a depot at Keithley's Creek, which will enable me to carry on a six week's campaign in the Snowshoe country, by which time, it is to be hoped, trains will come as far as Keithley's Creek. On the way up to the Lake we met numbers of men coming down for provisions, most of them with a peculiar glare about the eyes, indicative of their being taken with the gold fever.

ABOUT TRAINS.

The trail from here to the bridge on the North Fork is in a truly wretched condition, and in many places feet, knees and hands are all in requisition, and have to be used with considerable energy. I think if His Excellency the Governor or the Chief Commissioner of this go-a-head country were to be present and witness the exertions of the majority of the tax-payers of British Columbia as they scramble along with packs varying from 80 to 100 pounds in weight, they would (were they accessible to that vulgar emotion known as pity) immediately have something done to alleviate the sufferings of the aforesaid tax-payers. A few hundred dollars expended in having the logs cut out of the trail would cause the hearty curses which are now daily being showered on their devoted heads to be exchanged for benedictions. People here do not, however, expect that any thing will be done for the upper country this year as the attention of the authorities appears to be concentrated in improving and making roads about the Lower Fraser. Perhaps, when the miners are engaged working in the Rocky Mountains, the government will consider the expediency of cutting a trail from the forks to Cariboo, or of making a wagon road from Williams Lake to Quesnell, but it is absurd to expect anything to be done in the shape of roads for districts which have only been opened during the last two years.

The system of allowing private individuals to cut trails and make roads for the privilege of charging a limited toll for a limited period cannot be entertained in a British colony. It is true, it answered very well among our republican neighbors in California, but in British Columbia we must not do things in a hurry; but proceed slowly and with due regard to well-established forms and precedents. The government has granted \$2000 to be expended on the trail between Williams Lake and this place; but the sum is more urgently needed for the trail between the latter place and Antler Creek. Through the exertions of Messrs. Barry and Adler, the enterprising proprietors of the bridge over the South Fork, the trail from Beaver Lake has been bridged over at the worst place and will do for animals in conjunction with others, having a trail cut from the Forks to the bridge or the North Branch of Quesnell which will supersede the one now used along the river. But private enterprise cannot effect everything, and if the government do not set to work without delay and have a trail put through to Antler Creek, there will be very little mining done this season as the men will have to employ half their time running up and down for provisions. The trail used by packers last year in order to reach Keithley's Creek is not the one at present used by pedestrians, but one that in leaving Beaver Lake goes through the valley of Beaver Creek and strikes the Quesnell ten miles below the Forks, where there is a ferry. From this place it runs along the top of the ridge of mountains on a parallel with the North Fork. This route is chosen by packers on account of grass growing there in summer. On the Cariboo Lake men are ferried across Keithley's Creek at a cost of one dollar a head.

SNOW MELTING—FRESHET—MINING SUSPENDED. The snow is melting away very quickly at the mines, and the creeks have for the time become raging torrents. The bridge over Keithley's at Davis' store, has been carried away, and mining is almost suspended. The water rose so quickly that some of the flumes were carried away on Antler Creek before they could be moved. Only three or four bench claims are being worked there at present, as the water is much too high for mining purposes along the creek. The snow at the foot of the Bald Mountains and along Snowshoe Creek has become quite rotten, and men have literally to crawl along the trail for a mile or so and often sink down up to the waist. On the mountain itself, it still remains firm and is easily traveled over.

PROSPECTING AT AN END.

Prospecting will almost be put a stop to for the next month or three weeks, as the snow leaving will turn the country into a vast swamp for about that period.

RICH CLAIMS.

The claims that have as yet been opened on Antler Creek continued to pay very rich up to the last moment of working. A. R. Smith took out as much as THREE AND A HALF POUNDS of gold in one day with a rocker. His claim has averaged from 26 to 30 ounces a day. The richest claims are those in the possession of Moreland, Rose & Co. and Rankin and Robinson. The bench claims, 100 feet above the water, pay from 4 to 8 ounces to the rocker per day. I have heard of several large strikes, but am afraid to give them as I do not know the authority, although I believe them to be correct.

KEEP COOL DOWN BELOW.

I should not advise any one to rush up here this season, as provisions will be very scarce, and they will have to rush back. Added to this the mining season will be very short.

MISCELLANEOUS.

When I arrive at the Snowshoe mines I will write you an account of the different claims and the number of men working; together with particulars of the nature of the deposits. The town is very lively. Mr. Norris will take this letter down for you and will be able to give you an idea of the size of the gold found on Antler from specimens he has with him.

ARGUS.

PLUG MASSES.—On Saturday night and yesterday morning early, there were two or three fights, in which some parties were rather severely used. One of these encounters occurred in front of the theatre, during the progress of which James Procter, was arrested for striking a man named McNeil on the head with a slung-shot, cutting him badly. About two o'clock yesterday morning, a general row occurred on Government street, near Trounce alley, during which black eyes and bloody noses were readily obtained by disinterested spectators without the asking. One man made his way to the station-house about daylight, and exhibited a contusion covered with blood and smashed almost to a jelly. He bled profusely, and left traces of a sanguineous color wherever he halted. At midnight a little row occurred back of the ravine in a small hut; no great damage was done. The principal cause in each case, was tangle leg.

SEIZURE OF LIQUOR.—The Police on Saturday seized a large quantity of lightning whisky which they found in the possession of some Indians.

Apologetic.

As a new carrier will take charge of our route to-day, and may miss several of our subscribers, those who fail to receive their paper will confer a favor by leaving their names and addresses at the Colonist office, in order that all errors may be rectified.

ATTEMPTED BURGLARY.—About 12 o'clock on Friday night, as Mr. Robert Homfray was about entering his house on Trounce alley, he observed two men on the opposite sidewalk, who, however, ran away as he approached. Thinking nothing of this circumstance, he entered his dwelling and retired to rest; but about one hour afterwards was awakened by hearing a footstep in a lane adjoining his house. Immediately taking his revolver from under his head, Mr. H. crept to the door, and found that two burglars were at work attempting to force an entrance by means of false keys. After listening to the fellows' operations for a few moments, with pistol ready cocked to give the intruder a warm reception, Mr. Homfray struck the door with his hand and the rascals, whoever they were, immediately fled, one through Trounce alley and the other over the back fence. Of the latter, Mr. H. got a glimpse, as he scaled the fence, and describes him as being a short, stout man, roughly dressed. They no doubt belong to the same gang who a short time ago robbed Moses' lodging-house.

NO STEAMER.—Up to the hour of our going to press, the mail steamer had not arrived. We now think that the advertising of the Cortes for this port as well as Portland, was a typographical error, and do not look for any later news before the arrival of the Eliza Anderson to-morrow.

EXPLORING PARTY.—A party will leave to-day for Bute Inlet for the purpose of exploring the coast route said to exist from that point to Cariboo. This party is composed of private individuals, and is not connected with the citizens' exploring party shortly to start for the same point.

MEETING OF AMERICANS.—A meeting of American residents, to adopt measures for the proper observance of the coming Fourth of July, is talked of.

THE "SHUBRICK."—The U. S. light-house steamer Shubrick left our harbor on Saturday morning last, at 8½ o'clock, for Columbia River.

AUCTION.—Mr. McCrea will hold an auction of groceries and other goods this morning at 11 o'clock.

MILCH COWS.

FINE AMERICAN MILCH COWS, warranted quiet, with calves and to calve, for sale low. Apply to G. D. CLARK, Butcher, Corner Yates and Douglas streets.

BOOK BINDING

IN ALL ITS BRANCHES.

WILLIAM STEWART, FROM EDINBURGH, is prepared to execute orders for Book Binding in the best styles and at the lowest rates.

Government Work Contracted for. Orders left at Messrs. HIBBEN & CARSWELL'S, Yates street, promptly attended to.

JUST RECEIVED, EX "PACIFIC": 1843 QR SACKS E FINE MILLS FLOUR; 38 qr sacks Magnolia Mills Extra Flour; 29 qr sacks Springfield Mills Extra Flour; 37 sacks Bran. For sale by J. J. SOUTHWATE & CO., Wharf street.

Ex W. D. RICE.

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American Patent Medicines,

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W. M. SEARBY, Chemist and Druggist, Government street.

St. Andrew's Society,

VICTORIA, V. I.

INSTITUTED FEBRUARY 3d, 1860.

FOR THE RELIEF OF SCOTCHMEN For their descendants who may be in distress, and to give counsel and assistance to immigrants on their arrival here. Applications for pecuniary aid or advice to be made to the Managers.

HONORARY PRESIDENT. His Excellency Governor Douglas, C. B., &c.

HONORARY VICE PRESIDENTS. His Honor Judge Cameron. His Honor Judge Begbie.

PRESIDENT. Capt. James M. Reid.

VICE PRESIDENTS. Capt. James Deane. Mr. J. Gordon McKay.

MANAGERS. Mr. J. A. McCrea. Mr. A. Clink. Mr. W. Muir. Mr. M. Muir. Mr. A. F. Main.

CHAIRMAN. Rev'd. M. Macfie.

PHYSICIAN. Alex. Kennedy, M. D.

TREASURER. Mr. J. M. Robertson.

WARDEN. Mr. Thos. Gorrie.

my17 3m WM. WALLS, Secretary.

SELLING OFF the entire stock of

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AT COST FOR SIXTY DAYS.

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Crockery, Glass, Hardware, Clothing, Boots, Ladies' and Misses' Boots and Shoes, Mantillas, India Rubber Boots, Blankets, Sheetings, Drillings, White and Fancy 8-ir, Spades, Shovels, Mining Tools, Cans, Cards, Hats, Caps, etc.

GROCERIES,

Candles, Sugar, Tea, Coffee, Cans, Fruits, Pickles, Oysters, Sauces, Raisins, Currants, Butter, Lard, Hams, Cakes, Yeast Powder, etc.

The above was purchased expressly for this market, and is offered for sale in consequence of the proprietor leaving for California.

FOR BARGAINS, now is your time.

Call and examine, at FARRELL & CO'S, Columbia street, New Westminster.

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GLADWIN, TARBELL & CO.,

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AT REINHART BROS. STORE,

VICTORIA, V. I.

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SPORBORG & GOLDSTONE, Dealers in Oregon Produce and Commission Merchants.

SPORBORG & GOLDSTONE, Agents for California Brooms manufactured at San Francisco. The trade supplied at a small advance above manufacturer's rates.

10,000 LBS. of splendid Oregon Bacon, for sale at SPORBORG & GOLDSTONE'S.

150 CASES ROOTS AND SHOES for sale low at SPORBORG & GOLDSTONE'S.

50 CASES OREGON LARD for sale low at SPORBORG & GOLDSTONE'S. Yates' Fire Proof Warehouse, Wharf street.

S. MARTIN, Victoria.] [A. MARTIN, San Francisco.

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Wholesale Grocers,

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KEEP CONSTANTLY ON HAND, EX recent arrivals, a large assortment of goods in their line, selected with particular reference to Vancouver Island and British Columbia trade. All goods warranted and sold at the lowest market rates. All orders promptly attended to.

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ENGLISH CHEMICALS,

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NEW GOODS!

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FOR

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A FULL ASSORTMENT OF

Alexandre's Kid Gloves,

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